

## Message Text

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47

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SCS-03

SCA-01 OPR-02 A-01 SY-05 SCCT-01 /068 W

----- 117909

P R 221024Z APR 75

FM AMCONSUL NAHA

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1689

USFJ YOKOTA

MARCORD CAMP BUTLER

USAGO FORT BUCKNER

/18TH TFW KADENA

COMFLEACTS NAHA

THIRD MARDIV CAMP COURTNEY

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E.O. 1652C N/A TAGS: MARR, PORS, JA

SUBJECT: FLORES RAPE CASE

SUMMARY: PROTEST RE FLORES RAPE INCIDENT CONTINUES, WITH HEAVY COVERA  
GE

IN PRESS AND TV, ESPECIALLY OF APRIL 21 PROTEST MEETING AT CONGEN

WHICH

WAS ABORTED BECAUSE DELEGATION REFUSED TO MEET WITHOUT PRESS PRESENT.

PRESSURE CONTINUES FOR TURNOVER OF FLORES TO JAPANESE AUTHORITIES

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(AS CONFESSED ASSAILANT) DESPITE OUR ASSURANCES THAT HE WILL BE TRIED  
IN JAPANESE COURTS ONCE INDICTED AND OUR EXPLANATION OF SOFA  
TECHNICALITIES. POLICE PROVIDING EXTRA PLAINCLOTHES PROTECTION TO  
CONGEN OFFICE BUILDING. END SUMMARY

1. RYUKYU SHIMPO APRIL 22 GAVE HEAVY COVERAGE, WITH PICTURE, TO  
ABORTIVE MEETING AT CONGEN WITH TEACHERS UNION, PTA, AND WOMENS  
GROUP PLUS NEWSMEN (REFTEL) CHARGING THAT WITHOUT PUBLICITY

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AFFORDED BY HAVING PRESS PRESENT, PROTEST WOULD BE MEANINGLESS.

GROUPS ARE REPORTEDLY THREATENING DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST CONGEN POLICY. (LOCAL POLICE HAVE STATIONED PLAINCLOTHESMEN IN VICINITY OF CONGEN, IN ADDITION TO REGULAR UNIFORMED MEN, IN CASE OF TROUBLE AND ARE INVESTIGATING THREAT.) PRESS ALSO REPORTED KOMEITO STATEMENT THAT ACTING PRINCIPAL OFFICER HAD REFUSED TO MEET WITH THEM WITH PRESS PRESENT, SO THEY HAD GIVEN UP THEIR PROTEST AS "WORTHLESS." KOMEITO PROTEST REPORTEDLY ALLEGED THAT BRUTAL CRIMES BY US SERVICEMEN HAD BEEN INCREASING, DEMANDED WITHDRAWAL OF US BASES "WHICH HAVE BEEN STRENGTHENED," AND CASTIGATED US FORCES FOR ALLEGEDLY PROTECTING ASSAILANT BY REFUSING TO HAND HIM OVER. PRESS ALSO REPORTED JCP DELEGATION'S PROTEST, WITH NO MENTION OF OUR STATEMENTS.

2. MEDIA REPORTED GOVERNOR YARA HAS DEMANDED THROUGH HIS LIAISON

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CHIEF; A) USMC ENFORCEMENT OF STRICT DISCIPLINE, B) TURNOVER OF FLORES TO PLICE ASAP, AND C) COMPENSATION TO VICTIMS. PREFECTURAL ASSEMBLY WILL GET INTO ACT WITH INVESTIGATION THROUGH ITS BASES COMMITTEE. SOME 13 GROUPS ARE REPORTEDLY INVOLVED IN PROTEST. 3. DFAB DEPUTY DIRECTOR KATO CALLED AT CONGEN APRIL 22, LOOKING FOR WAYS TO REDUCE USMC CRIME PROGRAM. HE ASKED WHETHER NCO'S AND CO'S UP THE LINE TO THE DIVISION COMMANDER COULD BE HELD RESPONSIBLE OR "PUNISHED" IF ONE OF THEIR MEN COMMITTED A SERIOUS INCIDENT. KATO SUGGESTING DOCKING PAY OF EACH SUPERVISOR ALONG CHAIN OF COMMAND, OR, AT A MINIMUM ANNOUNCEMENT, THAT DIRECT SUPERIOR OF ASSAILANT HAD BEEN CONFINED TO BASE FOR A WEEK, AS A GESTURE TO HELP PUBLIC MOOD. APO SAID IT WOULD BE VERY DIFFICULT TO HOLD A SUPERIOR RESPONSIBLE FOR THE OFF-DUTY ACTS OF HIS SUBORDINATE, ALTHOUGH UNDOUBTEDLY A CRIME COMMITTED BY A SUBORDINATE WOULD REFLECT ON LEADERSHIP RECORD OF HIS SUPERIOR. A PAYCUT SYSTEM WOULD BE CUMBERSOME AND HAVE TO BE CORPS-WIDE, REQUIRING HIGH LEVEL DECISION (OR EVEN

LEGISLATION). I NOTED EXCELLENT STATEMENT BY GENERAL HOUGHTON HAD EXPRESSED REGRET ON BEHALF OF ALL MARINES ON OKINAWA AND PROMISED TO ENSURE THAT ALL SUCH CRIMINAL ACTS WOULD BE DEALT WITH

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QUICKLY AND SEVERELY. (HOUGHTON STATEMENT WAS GIVEN PROMINENT PLAY IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE MORNING STAR BUT BURIED AND CUT IN TWO VERNACULAR PAPERS.) I PROMISED TO RELAY KATO'S SUGGESTIONS, BUT THEY SOUND LIKE DRAB ATTEMPT TO DEMONSTRATE IT IS DOING SOMETHING--ANYTHING. 4. KATO ALSO ASKED ABOUT COMPENSATION FOR INJURED GIRLS; I SAID OF COURSE THIS WOULD BE HANDLED PROMPTLY. I CONCLUDED BY EMPHASIZING THAT DFAB URGE JAPANESE JUDICIAL AUTHORITIES TO MOVE QUICKLY TOWARD

AN INDICTMENT, IN HOPES OF GETTING INCIDENT OFF OF FRONT PAGES ASAP;  
HE CONCURRED.

5. LATE AFTERNOON, 8-MAN DELEGATION OF OKINAWA HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS  
ASSOC. FOLLOWED BY 20-WOMAN DELEGATION OF WOMEN TEACHERS ASSOC.  
(RECEIVED AT FRONT DOOR) DELIVERED PROTESTS CALLING FOR IMMEDIATE  
TURNOVER OF ASSAILANT, WITHDRAWAL OF US BASES ETC. WE MADE SIMILAR  
RESPONSES AS WITH OTHER DELS. SENIOR EDITOR OF RYUKYU TIMES CAME IN  
TO "APOLOGIZE" FOR INCIDENT OF PREVIOUS DAY AND WE BRIEFED HIM ON  
TEACHERS PROTEST. COMMENT: TODAY'S PRESS CONCENTRATION ON US PRESS  
POLICY RE PROTEST DELS. HAS AT LEAST DIVERTED SOME ATTENTION FROM  
SORDID NATURE OF CRIME.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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